

THE PRINCIPAL
A C T S
OF THE
General Assembly
OF THE
CHURCH
OF
SCOTLAND,

Convened at EDINBURGH, the 17th Day of *May* 1787.

Collected and extracted from the Records by the Clerks thereof.



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OF THE
General Assembly
OF THE
C H U R C H
O F
S C O T L A N D,

Begun at *Edinburgh*, the 17th Day of *May* 1787, and
concluded the 28th Day of the said Month and Year.

I.

The KING's Commission to DAVID Earl
of LEVEN produced, and ordered to
be recorded.

Edinburgh, May 17. 1787.

THE General Assembly of this National Church
being convened and constituted, there was pro-
duced to them, by the Right Honourable DA-
VID Earl of LEVEN, the King's Commission,
sealed with the Seal appointed by the Treaty
of Union to be kept and used in *Scotland*, in place of the
Great Seal of *Scotland*, making and constituting him his
Majesty's

Majesty's High Commissioner and Representative in this Assembly, of the same tenor with the Commission granted to his Lordship last year; which Commission was publicly read with all due honour and respect, and ordered to be recorded in the Books of Assembly.

GEORGIUS, *Dei gratia, Magnæ Britanniae, Franciæ, et Hiberniæ, Rex, Fidei Defensor*: Omnibus probis hominibus, ad quos præsentēs literæ pervenerint. Quandoquidem nos considerantes, quod generalis ecclesiæ Scotiæ conventus in decimum septimum diem Maii proximi convenire ordinatus fuit; nosque abunde cupidi, quin etiam necessarium esse judicantes in commodum dict. ecclesiæ, ut idem generalis conventus die statuto debite observetur, atque rebus magni momenti nos alio vocantibus, dict. conventui personaliter interesse nequimus; nosque abunde satisfacti de sufficientia et fidelitate fidelissimi et dilectissimi nostri consanguinei, Davidis Comitis de Leven, quod ad summum munus nostri supremi Commissionarii ad dictum generalem conventum rite exercendum et obeundum usquequaque sit instructus: Noveritis igitur, nos nominasse, constituisse, ordinasse, tenoreque præsentium, nominare, constituere, et ordinare, fidelissimum et dilectissimum nostrum consanguineum Davidem Comitem de Leven, supremum nostrum Commissionarium dicto generali ecclesiæ Scotiæ conventui, dando et concedendo illi plenam potestatem, commissionem, et warrantum, sacram nostram personam et auctoritatem regalem representandi, nec non præsentiam nostram supplendi, et locum nostrum, in dicto subsequenti generali conventu, tanquam Commissionario nostro ad hunc effectum specialiter constituto, tenendi, omniaque alia ad imperium et munus Commissionarii pro generali ecclesiæ conventu peragendi, tam plene alioque libere in quovis respectu, quam quilibet alius in eodem summo munere fecerat, seu quovis tempore præterito facere potuerat, et ac si nos ipsi personaliter præsentēs facere potuerimus. Quæque omnia et singula quæ dictus David Comes de Leven in hac nostra commissione prosequenda legitime fecerit, seu fieri ordinaverit, nos firmiter approbamus, et habituri sumus. Omnibus et singulis insuper dict. ecclesiæ pastoribus, et presbyteris cæterisque quibuscunque, intra illam partem Magnæ Britanniæ Scotiam vocatam, subditis nostris, cujuscunque gradus seu qualitatis, strikte præcipimus et mandamus, ut dictum Davidem Comitem de Leven, tanquam supremum nostrum Commissionarium ad effectum et modum supra memorat. revereantur, agnoscant, et dict. ipsius audientes se præbeant: Atque hanc nostram commissionem a dicto decimo septimo die Maii proximi incipere, et deinceps durante hac subsequente sessionis dict. generalis conventus continuare,

continuatione, declaramus, vel usque dum a nobis revocabitur, et exonerabitur. In cujus rei testimonium, presentibus sigillum nostrum per unionis tractatum custodiend. et in Scotia, vice et loco Magni Sigilli ejusdem utend. ordinat. appendi mandavimus. Apud aulam nostram apud St James's, trigesimo die mensis Aprilis, anno Domini millesimo septingentesimo et octogesimo-septimo, Regniue nostri anno vigesimo-septimo.

Per signaturam manu S. D. N. Regis superscriptam

II.

The KING's most gracious Letter to the
General Assembly, presented to them
by his Majesty's Commissioner.

GEORGE R.

RIGHT REVEREND and Well-beloved, We greet you well. Your constant endeavours in the support of Religion and Virtue, your equitable proceedings in all matters which come before you, and your uniform zeal for the dignity of Our Person and Government, have justly entitled you to those marks of approbation, which We have hitherto with so much satisfaction given to you. Such a laudable conduct will always meet with Our Approbation, and will insure Our Royal Protection, in the support and maintenance of the Church of Scotland, in all its just rights and privileges, as established by law. We repeat Our exhortations to you, to suppress all unnecessary discussions, and to discountenance all private and personal animosities; to attend strictly to the true purposes for which you are assembled; to continue your endeavours to check and discountenance every species of vice, licentiousness, and discord, and for the promotion and encouragement of every Christian virtue. Our Right Trusty, and Right Well-beloved Cousin, David Earl of Leven, has so strongly shewn his attachment to the interests of

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his country, as well as his loyalty and fidelity to Our Person and Government, and you have so often experienced his endeavours to execute with uprightness, the high and important trust of Our Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, that We are confident Our re-appointment of him to that great office will be acceptable to you. And we trust that you will attend to these Our recommendations, in preserving unanimity and brotherly love among you in your councils, and secure to yourselves a happy conclusion of the present Assembly; and so We bid you heartily farewell. Given at Our Court at St James's, the 7th day of May 1787, in the 27th year of Our Reign.

By his Majesty's Command,

S Y D N E Y.

Addressed thus : To the Right Reverend and Well-beloved the Moderator, Ministers and Elders of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

III.

The General Assembly's Answer to the King's most gracious Letter.

May it please your Majesty,

WE receive with the most dutiful respect, the honour done us by your Majesty's most gracious letter.

It gives us great satisfaction, that our humble endeavours in the support of Religion and Virtue, the equitable proceedings of our Assemblies, and our uniform zeal for the dignity of your Sacred Person and Government have recommended us to those marks of approbation,

tion, with which your Majesty hath been hitherto pleased to honour us.

By the same laudable conduct, we trust, we shall obtain the same Royal approbation, and insure to the Church of Scotland, your Majesty's protection, in the support and maintenance of all her just rights and privileges as established by law.

Permit us to assure your Majesty, that, avoiding all unnecessary discussions, and all private and personal animosities, we shall strictly keep in view the great purposes of our present meeting; and that, depending upon the blessing of God, we shall always consider it as our honour to exert our constant endeavours, to check and discountenance every species of vice, licentiousness and discord, and to promote and encourage every Christian virtue among the people committed to our care.

The loyalty and fidelity of the Right Honourable the Earl of Leven, his uprightness in the discharge of his high and important trust, as well as his regard to religion, and the interests of his Country and of this Church, are so well known to us, as to render your Majesty's choice of him, to represent your Sacred Person in this Assembly, a fresh mark of your Royal Favour; and we trust we shall shew to him all that respect which is due to the representative of our Sovereign, and secure to ourselves a happy conclusion of this Assembly, by preserving in our councils that brotherly love, and, as far as possible, that unanimity which your Majesty recommends.

Your Majesty's Donation of one thousand pounds, we accept with all gratitude, as a proof of the continuance of your Majesty's paternal concern for the spiritual as well as temporal interests of your people, even in the most remote and uncultivated parts of your kingdoms; and it shall be our study to apply it in such a manner, as may most effectually promote the pious and benevolent purposes of the Royal Donor.

That God may abundantly bless your Majesty: That he may continue to guard from every danger, a life so dear to your Majesty's subjects, and so precious to the religion and liberties of this country: That he may direct your councils, prosper your administration, and establish your throne in righteousness: That he may pour down his best blessing upon your Royal Consort the Queen, the Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family, endow them
plenteously

plenteously with the Gifts of his Spirit, and fit them for the duties of their exalted station: That he may maintain the succession to the Crown of these kingdoms, in your Illustrious Family to the latest ages; and that after a long and happy reign, over a great and free people, you may, through the merits of our Lord Jesus Christ, be crowned with eternal glory in Heaven, is the most fervent prayer of,

May it please your Majesty,
Your Majesty's most faithful,
Most obedient,

And most loyal subjects,
The Ministers and Elders met in this National
Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our name,
In our presence,
And at our appointment, by

ROBERT LISTON, *Mod.*

IV.

Commission to some Ministers and Ruling
Elders for the Reformation of the
Highlands and Islands of Scotland, and
for managing his Majesty's Royal
Bounty for that end.

THE General Assembly do hereby nominate and appoint the Reverend Mr Robert Liston, Minister of the Gospel at Aberdour, their Moderator, all the ministers who are members of the Presbytery of Edinburgh, Mr David Swan at Scoonie, Mr Andrew Hutton at Kilmanie, Professor George Hill, Principal M'Cormick, Dr James Playfair at Meigle, Mr John Webster at Inverarity, Dr James Blinshall at Dundee, Mr Alexander Mackie at Aberbrothock,

Aberbrothock, Mr James Wilson at Marytown, Mr Alexander Leslie at Fordown, Dr Duncan Shaw at Aberdeen, Mr William Shand at Lumphanan, Mr Robert Lumsden at Kildrummy, Mr John Rose at Udney, Mr William Davidson at Inverury, Mr John Lundie at Loanmay, Mr Andrew Skeene at Banff, Mr John Cooper at Glasf, Mr John Grant at Kirkmichael, Mr William Gordon at Urquhart, Mr Alexander Coul at Edinkilly, Mr Alexander Frazer at Kirkhill, Mr Alexander Wood at Rosemarkie, Mr John Urquhart at Fearn, Mr Colin Mackenzie at Foderty, Mr Donald Mackinnon at Strath, Mr Alexander Mackay at Barvas, Mr John Macqueen at Applecross, Mr Walter Ross at Clyne, Mr Patrick Nicholson at Thurso, Mr John Scollay at St Andrew's, Mr Francis Liddle at Orphir, Mr William Mitchell at Tingwall, Mr James Lindsay at Kirkliston, Mr John Gordon at Dolphington, Mr John Hamilton at Bolton, Dr William Dalgliesh at Peebles, Dr Alexander Carlyle at Inveresk, Mr Daniel Macqueen at Prestonkirk, Mr William Simpson at Greenlaw, Dr Walter Anderson at Churnside, Mr Robert Turnbull at Sprouston, Mr Thomas Elliot at Cavers, Mr John Mertown at Merton, Mr Robert Douglas at Galashiels, Mr John Ruffel at Canonby, Mr David Donaldson at Wamphry, Mr William Keyden at Penpont, Mr George Duncan at Lochrutton, Mr Robert Mutter at Kirkcudbright, Dr William Boyd at Penningham, Mr John Coulter at Stranrawer, Dr William Dalrymple at Ayr, Mr Arthur Ouchterson at Kilbride, Dr John Snodgrafs at Paisley, Mr Archibald Bruce at Shotts, Mr Joseph Crichton at Carstairs, Dr William Taylor at Glasgow, Mr James Cooper at Baldernock, Mr John Mackinnon at Kilmodan, Mr Robert Thomson at Killeen, Mr Joseph Macintyre at Glenorchy, Mr Patrick Macarthur at Torosay, Mr Thomas Fleeming at Kenmore, Mr Hary Inglis at Fortiviot, Mr Robert Ure at Airth, Mr John Wright at Trinitygask, Mr James Robertson at Callender, Ministers; Sir Charles Preston, Mr James Fergus at Kirkaldy, Andrew Hamilton, Esq; Provost of Kinghorn, Colonel Monypenny, Dr Andrew Duncan, Mr George Imlach writer, Mr Thomas Miln merchant, Mr Thomas Duncan writer, Mr Alexander Burnet advocate, Mr John Mosman, Professor Playfair, Mr Cunningham of Hyndhope, William Macdonald, Esq; of Reneaton, John Gordon of Craig, Esq; George Buchan-Hepburn, Esq; Mr John Taylor writer, Mr John Robertson writer, Mr John Ruffel *junior*, writer, Baron Gordon, Dr Gregory Grant, Mr Thomas Gordon writer, C Walter

Walter Dunbar, Esq; Mr Ludovick Grant *junior*, writer, Mr Robert Mackintosh advocate, Convener Lindsay, Lord Ankerville, Bailie Galloway, Lord Macdonald, the Procurator, William Bannatyne-Macleod, Esq; Professor Hugh Macleod, Bailie Daniel Miller, John Campbell-Sutherland, Esq; Bailie James Torry, Mr Malcolm Laing advocate, Mr George Home baker, Professor Andrew Dalziel, Lord Henderland, Mr Archibald Macdowal, Mr Thomas Trotter, Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Convener Robert Dewar, Professor Finlayson, Honourable Captain Sandilands, Lord Chief Baron, Mr Hamilton of Spittlehaugh, Solicitor General, Earl of Hyndford, Mr Matthew Sandilands, Mr Stewart younger of Allanbank, Earl of Lauderdale, Mr William Elliot advocate, Mr Richard Tod, Mr James Saunders writer, Mr Francis Armstrong, John Bushby, Esq; Jo. Hamilton of Bargenny, Esq; Will. Campbell of Fairfield, Esq; Mr George Fergusson advocate, Honourable Patrick Boyle, Mr John Haddoway at Leith, Mr John Hamilton of Westburn, Alexander Wight, Esq; advocate, Lord Advocate, Sir James Colquhoun, Bart. John Lamont of Lamont, Esq; Mr James Home writer, Dr James Williamson, Colonel Campbell of Moonzie, Allan Macdougall, Esq; Thomas Elder, Esq; David Stewart, Esq; Mr Alexander Bonar banker, John Dickson, Esq; advocate, Mr John Erskine advocate, and the Honourable Henry Erskine, Ruling Elders, to be a Committee of this Assembly, for the reformation of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, for promoting the knowledge of true religion, suppressing Popery and profaneness, and for managing the Royal Bounty for these ends, according to, and in terms of his Majesty's grant to this Assembly. In prosecution of which purposes, the Committee are to appoint Preachers and Catechists, to go to such places as they shall find, upon due information, to be the most proper, according to his Majesty's design, expressed in his warrant; and, in so doing, that they have particular regard to such parishes in South Uist, Small Isles, Glenco, Harris, the countries of Moidart, Glengary, and Lochaber, and the other parishes of the Synods of Glenelg and Argyle, which the Committee shall find, by reason of the vast extent, by the prevalency of Popery and ignorance, and other unhappy circumstances, to be in the greatest distress: And they shall take care, that the persons they employ be certified, and found, upon due trial, to be properly qualified for these respective offices, of good abilities for the same, of a pious life and conversation,

tion, prudent, of undoubted loyalty to his Majesty, and of competent skill in the principles of Divinity, and particularly in Popish controversies: Such Preachers and Catechists being hereby appointed to be subject to, and under the inspection of the Presbyteries of the bounds to which they are sent, who are to take care that the orders of the Committee be duly observed by them. And the Preachers are also appointed to catechise, and both they and the Catechists to instruct the people from house to house, and to visit the sick; and, in all their labour among the people, to be careful to teach them the principles and duties of the true Christian Protestant religion, and the obligations they are under to duty and loyalty to our Sovereign King George, and obedience to the laws: And the Committee are empowered to give them such instructions, as to their work and behaviour, as they shall judge meet; which instructions the Preachers and Catechists are hereby ordered to obey. The General Assembly do further appoint the said Committee, to have a particular regard in their proceedings, to the regulations agreed upon by the Committee of the Assembly for managing the Royal Bounty, on the 30th of September 1730, approved by frequent Assemblies: And to take care that Presbyteries, and others concerned, observe the same, which they are hereby ordered to do: Particularly, the Assembly ordains the several Presbyteries to insert in their registers, the Committee's appointments of the designations, salaries, and stations of the several missionaries, and to have an exact regard thereto, in all the letters they shall write about the said missionaries, and in giving of certificates to them; and to direct all their letters, concerning missionaries in their bounds, only to the Moderator of the Committee; which letters shall be signed, at the appointment of the Presbytery, by the Moderator or Clerk thereof: And the Assembly does discharge any payment to be made of the salaries of the missionaries, except upon receipts from the missionaries themselves, and upon certificates from the Presbyteries, bearing, That they have served for the time mentioned in the receipts; and that every Catechist, who receives a salary from the Royal Bounty, on condition that the parishioners or gentlemen of the district shall pay a certain sum in aid of such salary, shall insert, in the body of his receipt to the Cashier, a declaration that he has received the particular sum specified; and that the attestation of the Presbytery shall in like manner bear, that the Catechist has received the stipulated sum
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which the Committee make the condition of his appointment; it being understood by this resolution, that the several stations, with regard to which such conditions were originally made by the Committee, when no such declaration of the Catechist, or attestation of the Presbytery, as is now proposed, is received by the Cashier, shall be afterwards suppressed by the Committee, though the Catechist shall, notwithstanding, receive the salary for the time he is certified to have performed his duty. That a journal of the itinerant's labours in the ministry, of the mission committed to him, be written on the back of the Presbytery's certificate, and signed by him, as the ground on which the Presbytery have granted him said certificate. The General Assembly do also empower the said Committee to apply, for the purposes above mentioned, what may remain of the last year's Royal Bounty not disposed of, by reason of any of the missionaries not fulfilling the appointments laid upon them; and that they are to keep a register of their proceedings, and likewise distinct books of accounts, how the foresaid money is bestowed, which shall be patent to any concerned who please to inspect the same. Of the persons above named as members of this Committee, five are declared to be a quorum, whereof three are to be ministers. But it is hereby appointed, That at the quarterly meeting of the Committee, in which the scheme or establishment of missionaries for the ensuing year is to be approved and determined, not less than fourteen shall be the quorum, whereof nine shall be ministers; and the said Committee are appointed to have their general meetings at Edinburgh, the first lawful day after the adjournment of each of the four stated diets of the commission of the General Assembly, within the Assembly ayle, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, except that day shall fall to be Saturday, and then the meeting shall be upon Monday next thereafter, at the said hour; with power to the said Committee to adjourn themselves to such times and places as they shall find most needful and convenient: And they are to keep a correspondence with the Commission of the General Assembly, and the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge, and their Committee of Directors, and to take their advice and assistance; and also to correspond with the Synods and Presbyteries concerned. They are likewise instructed and empowered, as they shall see cause, to apply to the Government, or any Magistrate, for assistance and support in carrying on the design of the commission

mission now given to them. And the General Assembly do appoint Mr William Robertson advocate, Procurator for the Church, and Receiver of the foresaid Royal Bounty, to pay out the same, as he shall be directed and ordered by the foresaid Committee, and according to their rules. And the said Committee are appointed to examine the accounts of the distribution of the Royal Bounty, and lay the same before the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, or the Barons of his Majesty's Court of Exchequer, and to report their diligence to the General Assembly, to whom they are to be accountable. And it is agreed, That no person once employed and insert in the scheme, shall be struck out thereof for that year, but by the quorum of at least fourteen, whereof nine to be ministers; and in case any complaint shall be made against any of them on the scheme, it shall not be determined the first ordinary meeting that the same is offered, but it shall lie on the table till another meeting; and in the mean time the person complained of, and the Presbytery of the bounds wherein he officiates, shall be acquainted of such complaint, and those concerned be required to send to the said Committee a just account of the matter against the next meeting. And it is further appointed, That after the yearly scheme of missionaries on the Royal Bounty is settled in manner above directed, and notice thereof given by letters to the Presbyteries concerned, such Presbyteries shall send up to the said Committee their answer to these letters, at farthest with their Commissioners to the General Assembly, if the same be not done sooner; and that the Committee, at their first meeting after the General Assembly, shall endeavour to complete the next year's scheme themselves; and if they cannot complete it, they shall name a Subcommittee of their number for that purpose, who are to lay their draught thereof before a subsequent meeting, which is appointed to meet as soon after the rising of the Assembly as possible. And empowered the Committee, at their first meeting, to reject any petition for a new station, in case they shall find sufficient objections against it; and that the said Committee, in making up the scheme of missionaries, &c. do not exceed the sum in the grant.

V.

Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders for discussing Affairs referred to them.

THE General Assembly do hereby nominate, commission and appoint, the Reverend Mr Robert Liston, minister of the gospel at Aberdour, their Moderator; and from the presbytery of Dunfermline, Mr James Reid at Beath, Mr David Balfour at Torryburn, ministers, and Sir Charles Preston of Valeyfield, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Kirkcaldie, Mr David Swan at Scoonie, Mr John Usher at Kinghorn, Mr Andrew Murray at Auchterderran, ministers, James Townsend-Oswald, Esq; of Dunnekeir, ruling elder; from the burgh of Kirkcaldie, Mr James Fergus, one of the present Bailies of Kirkcaldie; from the burgh of Kinghorn, Andrew Hamilton, Esq; Provost of Kinghorn; from the burgh of Burntisland, Mr John Thomson, one of the Bailies of Burntisland; from the burgh of Dysart, Mr John Melvill, *senior*, manufacturer in Dysart; from the presbytery of Cupar, Mr Andrew Hutton at Kilmanie, Mr Robert Macculloch at Derrie, Mr Andrew Ireland at Menzie, Mr William Gourly at Flesk, ministers, and Mr David Pitcairn at Maunt, and Mr Robert Chrystie at Calvingh, ruling elders; from the burgh of Cupar, Major John Melvell of Cairney; from the presbytery of St Andrew's, Mr John Mair at Cameron, Professor George Hill, St Andrew's, Mr James Macdonald at Kemback, Mr Henry David Hill at Denino, ministers, and Lieutenant-colonel Alexander Monnypenny, Mr Thomas Ballardie in Anstruther, ruling elders; from the burgh of St Andrew's, Dr Andrew Duncan, physician, Edinburgh; from the University of St Andrew's, Dr Joseph Maccormick, Principal of the University of St Andrew's; from the burgh of Crail, the Reverend Mr Alexander Meldrum of Kincapple; from the presbytery of Meikle, Mr James Stormonth at Airly, Dr James Playfair at Meikle, Mr James

James Johnston at Blairgowrie, ministers; from the presbytery of Forfar, Mr Griffith Ferguson at Dunnichen, Mr John Webster at Inverarity, ministers, Alexander Watson, Esq; younger of Turrin, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Dundee, Dr James Blinshall at Dundee, Mr John Gellatlay at Tealin, Mr Thomas Constable at Liff, ministers, Mr George Imlach, writer in Edinburgh, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Aberbrothock, Mr Alexander Mackay at Aberbrothock, Mr Alexander Girvin at Lunan, ministers, Mr Thomas Miln, merchant, Canongate, ruling elder; from the burgh of Aberbrothock, Mr Thomas Duncan, writer, Edinburgh; from the presbytery of Brechin, Mr James Wilson at Marytown, Mr John Waugh at Menmuir, Mr James Mitchell at Montrose, ministers, and Alexander Burnet, Esq; advocate, ruling elder; from the burgh of Montrose, John Mossman, Esq; merchant Edinburgh; from the presbytery of Fordown, Mr Alexander Leslie at Fordown, Mr James Walker at Dunnotter, Mr John Hutchison at Fetteresso, ministers, and Professor John Playfair, Edinburgh, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Aberdeen, Dr John Brown at Newhills, Dr Duncan Shaw at Aberdeen, Mr William Stronach at New Machar, Mr James Fraser at Drumoak, ministers, William Cruden, Esq; late Provost of Aberdeen, James Cunningham, Esq; of Hyndhope, ruling elders; from the Marishall College, Dr Robert Hamilton, Professor of Natural Philosophy; from the presbytery of Kincardine-o'neal, Mr William Shand at Lumphanan, Mr George Knowles at Birse, Mr Robert Farquharson at Logycoldstone, ministers, William Macdonald, Esq; of Rineaton, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Alford, Mr Robert Lumfden at Kildrummy, Mr Thomas Birnie at Alford, Mr George Donaldson at Kenethmont, ministers, John Gordon, Esq; of Craig, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Ellon, Mr John Rose at Udney, Mr Alexander Cock at Cruden, ministers, Professor Thomas Gordon, Aberdeen, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Garioch, Mr William Davidson at Inverury, Mr George Skeen Keith at Keith-hall, Mr Patrick Davidson at Raynie, ministers, George Buchan-Hepburn of Smeaton, Esq; ruling elder; from the presbytery of Deer, Mr John Lundie at Loanmay, Mr George More at Peterhead, Mr James Greig at Pitsligo, ministers, Mr John Taylor, writer to the Signet, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Fordyce, Mr Andrew Skeen at Banff, Mr Robert Grant at Cullen, ministers, Mr John Robertson, writer, Edinburgh, ruling elder; from the burgh of Cullen, Mr John Ruffel,

Ruffel, *junior*, writer to the Signet; from the presbytery of Strathbogie, Mr John Coopar at Glas, Mr Alexander Angus at Bortriphnie, ministers, Mr Baron Gordon, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Abernethy, Mr John Grant at Kirkmichael, Mr John Anderson at Kinguifick, ministers, Dr Gregory Grant, physician, Edinburgh, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Elgin, Mr William Gordon at Urquhart, Mr William Peterkin at Elgin, ministers, Mr Thomas Gordon, writer to the Signet, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Forres, Mr Alexander Coull at Edenkilly, Mr John Hoyes at Kinloss, ministers, Walter Dunbar, Esq; ruling elder; from the burgh of Forres, Mr Ludovick Grant, *junior*, writer, Edinburgh; from the presbytery of Inverness, Mr Alexander Frazer at Kirkhill, Mr William Smith at Petty, ministers, Robert Macintosh, Esq; advocate, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Chanonry, Mr Alexander Wood of Rosemarkie, Mr Robert Arthur at Kirkmichael, ministers, Convener John Lindsay, Edinburgh, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Tain, Mr John Urquhart at Fearn, Mr Alexander Nimmo at Edderton, ministers, Lord Ankerville, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Dingwall, Mr Colin Mackenzie at Fodertie, Mr Daniel Rose at Dingwall, ministers, Bailie William Galloway, merchant, Edinburgh, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Sky, Mr Martin Macpherson at Sleat, Mr Donald Mackinnon at Strath, ministers, Lord Macdonald, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Lewis, Mr Alexander Mackay at Barvas, Mr Hugh Munro at Uig, ministers, William Robertson, Esq; Procurator for the Church, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Lochcarron, Mr John Macqueen at Applecross, Mr Colin Maciver at Glenelg, ministers, William Macleod-Bannatyne, Esq; advocate, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Dornoch, Mr Æneas Macleod at Rogart, Mr Walter Ross at Clyne, ministers, Professor Hugh Macleod, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Caithness, Mr David Mackay at Reay, Mr Patrick Nicholson at Thurso, ministers, Bailie Daniel Miller, Canongate, ruling elder; from the burgh of Wick, John Campbell Sutherland of Forss, Esq; from the presbytery of Kirkwall, Mr John Scollay at St Andrew's, Mr George Barry at Kirkwall, ministers, Bailie James Torry, merchant, Edinburgh, ruling elder; from the burgh of Kirkwall, Mr Malcolm Laing, advocate; from the presbytery of Cairnston, Mr Francis Liddle at Orphir, Mr John Falconer at Stromness, ministers, Mr George Hume, baker, Edinburgh, ruling

ling elder ; from the presbytery of Zetland, Mr William Mitchell at Tingwall, Mr Patrick Barclay at Standsting, ministers, Professor Andrew Dalzel, Edinburgh, ruling elder ; from the presbytery of Edinburgh, Mr Henry Lundie, Edinburgh, Mr John Chisley at Corstorphin, Dr William Gloag, Edinburgh, Dr John Walker at Collington, Dr John Macfarlane, Canongate, Mr Thomas Randal, Edinburgh, ministers, Lord Henderland, Mr Archibald Macdowall, Mr Thomas Trotter, ruling elders ; from the city of Edinburgh, the Right Honourable John Grieve, Lord Provost, Convener Robert Dewar ; from the University of Edinburgh, the Reverend Mr James Finlayson, Professor of Logic ; from the presbytery of Linlithgow, Mr James Lindsay at Kirkliston, Mr Patrick Bailie at Borrowstounness, Mr Robert Wishart at Livingston, Mr William Gibb at Uphall, ministers, Sir William Augustus Cunningham, the Honourable Captain Sandilands, ruling elders ; from the burgh of Linlithgow, Provost Robert Clark ; from the burgh of Queensferry, Captain James Taylor ; from the presbytery of Biggar, Mr John Gordon at Dolphington, Mr William Porteus at Kilbucko, Mr William Strachan at Coulter, ministers, Mr John Brown, schoolmaster at Libberton, ruling elder ; from the presbytery of Peebles, Dr William Dalgliesh at Peebles, Mr Robert Scott at Inverleithen, ministers, the Right Honourable Lord Chief Baron, ruling elder ; from the burgh of Peebles, Andrew Hamilton of Spittlehaugh, Esq; from the presbytery of Dalkeith, Dr Alexander Carlyle at Inveresk, Mr John Paton at Lasswade, Mr James Brown at Newbattle, ministers, Mr Solicitor-general, ruling elder ; from the presbytery of Haddington, Mr John Hamilton at Bolton, Mr Francis Cowan at Gladsmuir, Mr Patrick Carfrae at Morham, ministers, the Right Honourable the Earl of Hyndford, ruling elder ; from the burgh of Haddington, Mr Thomas Howden, tenant in Ugston ; from the burgh of Northberwick, Hugh Dalrymple, Esq; younger of Northberwick ; from the presbytery of Dunbar, Mr Daniel Macqueen at Prestonkirk, Mr John Cochran at Oldhamstocks, ministers, James Wilkie, Esq; of Kilkerston, ruling elder ; from the burgh of Dunbar, Francis Kinloch, Esq; younger of Gilmerton ; from the presbytery of Dunse, Mr William Simpson at Greenlaw, Mr John Tod at Fogo, ministers, Matthew Sandilands of Couston, Esq; ruling elder ; from the presbytery of Churnside, Dr Walter Anderson at Churnside, Dr David Young at Foulden, ministers, John Stewart, Esq; younger of

of Allanbank, ruling elder ; from the presbytery of Kelso, Mr Andrew Ogilvie at Linton, Mr Robert Turnbull at Sprouston, ministers, the Right Honourable Henry Dundas, ruling elder ; from the presbytery of Jedburgh, Mr Thomas Elliot at Cavers, Mr James Rutherford at Hownam, Dr William Burn at Minto, ministers, Robert Dundas, Esq; his Majesty's Solicitor-general, ruling elder ; from the presbytery of Lawder, Mr John Martin at Merton, Mr William Shiell at Westruther, ministers, the Right Honourable Earl of Lauderdale, ruling elder ; from the presbytery of Selkirk, Mr Robert Douglas at Gala-fhiels, Mr Thomas Robertson at Selkirk, ministers, William Elliot younger of Borthwick-brae, Esq; advocate, ruling elder ; from the burgh of Selkirk, Mr Richard Tod, merchant, Leith ; from the presbytery of Langholm, Mr John Russel at Canonbie, Mr John Lawrie at Eskdalemuir, ministers, Mr James Saunders, writer to the Signet, ruling elder ; from the presbytery of Lochmaben, Mr David Donaldson at Wamphry, Mr David Dickson at St Mungo, Dr Patrick Nisbet at Hutton, ministers, Mr Francis Armstrong, merchant, Edinburgh, ruling elder ; from the burgh of Lochmaben, Mr Archibald Douglas, writer, Edinburgh ; from the presbytery of Penpont, Mr William Kydon at Penpont, Mr John Mackill at Durisdeer, ministers, Mr Robert Gibson in Caricknow, ruling elder ; from the presbytery of Dumfries, Mr George Duncan at Lochrutten, Mr William Wright at Newably, Mr William Burnside at Dumfries, ministers, Mr Robert Jackson, printer, Dumfries, ruling elder ; from the presbytery of Kirkcudbright, Mr Robert Mutter at Kirkcudbright, Mr John Johnston at Crossmichael, Mr George Maxwell at Buitle, ministers, Mr John Macmin in Crofts, ruling elder ; from the presbytery of Wigton, Dr William Boyd at Penningham, Mr Andrew Donnan at Wigton, ministers, Mr George Donnan, preacher of the gospel, ruling elder ; from the burgh of Whithorn, John Bushby, Esq; Sheriff-clerk of Dumfries ; from the presbytery of Stranraer, Mr John Coulter at Stranraer, Mr Robert Callendar at Kirkmaiden, ministers, the Honourable Patrick Maitland of Freugh, ruling elder ; from the presbytery of Ayr, Dr William Dalrymple at Ayr, Mr John Shephard at Muirkirk, Mr Stephen Young at Bar, Mr David Grant at Ochiltree, Mr William Peebles at Newton upon Ayr, ministers, John Hamilton of Bargeny, Esq; ruling elder ; from the burgh of Ayr, George Fergusson, Esq; advocate ; from the

the presbytery of Irvine, Mr Arthur Auchterfon at Kilbride, Mr James Mackinlay at Kilmarnoch, Dr James Woodrow at Stevenson, ministers, the Honourable Mr Patrick Boyle, ruling elder ; from the burgh of Irvine, Mr Alexander Macmillan, one of the present Bailies of Irvine ; from the presbytery of Paisley, Dr John Snodgrafs at Paisley, Mr Thomas Burns at Inchinnan, Mr Allan Macaulay at Old Parish of Greenock, Mr John Maccaig at Eastwood, ministers, Mr John Haddoway, merchant, Leith, Mr William Pattison, merchant, Paisley, ruling elders ; from the presbytery of Hamilton, Mr Archibald Bruce at Shotts, Mr Hugh Mitchell at Glasford, Mr John Lockhart at Cambusnethen, ministers, John Hamilton of Westburn, ruling elder ; from the presbytery of Lanark, Mr Joseph Crichton at Carstairs, Mr James Scott at Carluke, ministers, Mr George Scott, schoolmaster at Carnwath, ruling elder ; from the burgh of Lanark, Alexander Wight, Esq; advocate ; from the presbytery of Glasgow, Dr William Taylor, Glasgow, Mr William Stewart at Cumbernauld, Mr James French at Carmunnock, Mr William Dun at Kirkintulloch, ministers, Mr John Ferguson, merchant, Glasgow, Mr John Tenant, brewer there, ruling elders ; from the University of Glasgow, Dr Archibald Davidson, Principal of Glasgow College ; from the presbytery of Dumbarton, Mr James Couper at Badernock, Mr Alexander Macaulay at Strathblane, Mr Gavin Gibb at Fintry, ministers, Ilay Campbell, Esq; his Majesty's Advocate, ruling elder ; from the burgh of Dumbarton, Sir James Colquhoun of Luss, Baronet ; from the presbytery of Denoon, Mr John Macinnon at Kilmodan, Mr Alexander Macfarlane at Kilfinan, ministers, John Lamont of Lamont, Esq; ruling elders ; from the presbytery of Kintyre, Mr Robert Thomson at Killeen, Mr Dougal Macdougall at Gigha, Mr Alexander Stewart at Jura and Colonsay, ministers, Mr James Hume, writer to the Signet, ruling elder ; from the burgh of Campbeltown, William Campbell of Fairfield, Esq; from the burgh of Inverary, Dr James Williamson, professor of mathematics in the University of Glasgow ; from the presbytery of Lorn, Mr Joseph Macintyre at Glenorchy, Mr Donald Macnicol at Lismore, ministers, Colonel Robert Campbell of Monzie, ruling elder ; from the presbytery of Mull, Mr Patrick Macarthur at Torosay, Mr Dugald Campbell at Ross, ministers, Allan Macdougall of Galanach, Esq; ruling elder ; from the presbytery of Dunkeld, Mr Thomas Fleming at Kenmore, Mr Charles Machardie at Kirk-michael, Mr Alexander Stewart at Moulin, Mr George Baird

Baird at Dunkeld, ministers, Thomas Elder, Esq; wine-merchant, Edinburgh, David Stewart, Esq; banker, Edinburgh, ruling elders; from the presbytery of Perth, Mr Harry Inglis at Fortiviot, Mr John Dow at Methven, Mr John Inglis at Tippermuir, Mr James Scott at Perth, ministers, Mr Alexander Bonar, banker, Edinburgh, John Dickson, Esq; advocate, ruling elders; from the presbytery of Stirling, Mr Robert Ure at Airth, Mr George Harvey at Larbert, ministers, John Erskine, Esq; advocate, ruling elder; from the presbytery of Auchterarder, Mr John Wright at Trinity-Gask, Mr Colin Baxter at Monivaird, Mr Andrew Gibson at Muckart, ministers, the Honourable Henry Erskine, Esq; ruling elder; from the presbytery of Dumblane, Mr James Robertson at Callendar, Mr John Campbell at Kippan, ministers, Mr Patrick Caldwell at Noriston, ruling elder. And the General Assembly added thereto, Dr Hugh Blair, one of the ministers of Edinburgh, in place of the Moderator, and also added Mr Thomas Smith at Cumbertrees, Mr John Craig at Ruthwell, ministers, Sir William Maxwell of Springkell, Baronet, from the presbytery of Annan, whose commission through some accident had not been produced, to be Commissioners of this General Assembly, to the effect after mentioned; with power to the said Commissioners, or their quorum, which is hereby declared to be any thirty-one of the said Commissioners, whereof twenty-one are always to be ministers, to meet and convene within the Assembly-house at Edinburgh, the first day after the dissolution of this Assembly, at ten of the clock in the forenoon; and thereafter, the second Wednesday of August, third Wednesday of November, and the first Wednesday of March next to come, and oftener, when and where they shall think fit and convenient, with power to the said Commissioners to chuse their own Moderator: And likewise, the General Assembly fully empowers their said Commissioners, or their quorum above mentioned, to cognosce and finally determine, as they shall see cause, in every matter referred, or that shall be referred to them, by an act or order of this Assembly; and to do every thing contained in, and conform to the instructions given, or to be given by this Assembly; and to advert to the interest of the Church on every occasion, that the Church, and present establishment thereof, do not suffer or sustain any prejudice which they can prevent, as they will be answerable: Provided always, that this general clause be not extended to particular affairs

or

or processes before Synods or Presbyteries, that are not of universal concern to, or influence upon the whole Church. And it is hereby appointed, that no private processes be determined, except at the four stated diets; and what shall be determined at one diet of the Commission, with relation to private causes, shall be unalterable by any other diet thereof, and shall stand and continue in force till disapproved of by the General Assembly. And the Assembly renews the instructions given by the General Assembly in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventeen to their Commission, and appoints the same to stand in full force as instructions to the Commissioners before named, and to be observed by them in all points, as if the same were specially here insert; and that they enquire into the publishing and spreading of books and pamphlets, tending towards the promoting of opinions of whatever kind, inconsistent with our *Confession of Faith*; and that the recommenders of such books or pamphlets, or the errors therein contained, whether by word, writ, or print, be called before the said Commission, to answer for the same. And further, the said Commission is hereby empowered to receive any references and appeals that shall be made to them from Synods, in matters of doctrine, and ripen such affairs for the next General Assembly; and to contribute what they can to the suppressing of vice and immorality, and give all needful advice and assistance to Synods and Presbyteries, upon application to them for that end: Likewise, to take care that the impressions of the *Holy Scriptures*, the *Confession of Faith*, and *Catechisms*, and such books as are authorised by this Church, relating to the doctrine, worship, discipline and government thereof, be correct; and give directions about printing the same. And the Commissioners are appointed and empowered to keep a correspondence with the Committee for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands, for suppressing Popery and superstition, and for promoting the knowledge of true religion, and carrying on a reformation in these parts, and give assistance and concurrence therein; and, if need be, to apply to the Government for a proper remedy and speedy redress. And the said Commissioners are hereby strictly prohibited and discharged to meddle in any other matters than what are committed and referred to them as above mentioned: And, in all their actings, they are to proceed according to the acts and constitution of this Church, and to do nothing contrary thereto, or to the

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prejudice

prejudice of the same; declaring, that, in and for all their actings, they shall be accountable to, and censurable by the next General Assembly, as they shall see cause. And the General Assembly appoints the said Commissioners particularly to observe the acts of the General Assemblies one thousand seven hundred and twelve, and one thousand seven hundred and nineteen, respecting the application of the public money; which two acts are printed among the Acts of Assembly one thousand seven hundred and sixty-one. And this Commission is to continue and endure until another Commission be appointed; and members are required to attend the diets of the said Commission; and absents therefrom are ordered to be noticed, according to the 17th Act of the General Assembly held in the year one thousand seven hundred and six. And for the better securing of a quorum, and attendance of members on the Commission, the General Assembly prohibits the Presbytery of Edinburgh, or any other Presbytery within twelve miles thereof, to meet on any of the days or weeks appointed for the meeting of this Commission; and such of the members of these Presbyteries as are on the Commission, are required, all of them to give attendance on the diets thereof; and the Presbyteries at a greater distance, who have four or more members on the Commission, are to take care, that at least two of them attend each diet of the same: And the General Assembly appoint their Commission, at their first meeting, to discuss as many of the causes and questions relative to the settlement of vacant churches, which are or shall be referred to them by the Assembly, as they can overtake. And it is further provided, that when any Presbytery or Synod of this Church shall decline to comply with the sentence of the Commission, or to give the same a full execution, in that case the Commission is hereby prohibited to execute the same, by appointing any such correspondent meeting, as has been some time the practice, but shall allow the same to lie over to the ensuing Assembly, to which such Presbyteries or Synods shall be answerable for such their conduct, and are hereby appointed to send up with their Commissioners their reasons for the same. And that in passing their sentences, and in ordering the execution of the same, they strictly observe the 12th Act of the Assembly one thousand seven hundred and thirty-six.

Interim Act and Overture concerning
ordained Assistants, retransmitted and
re-enacted.

THE General Assembly having considered the report of their Committee, appointed to take under their consideration the reference from the Synod of Glasgow and Ayr, concerning ordained assistants; are of opinion, That both the Minister of the parish, and his ordained assistant and successor, ought to be constituent members of the Kirk-session; that in the Presbytery and Synod, either of them who is present, may deliberate and vote; that if both are present, these privileges belong to the Minister of the parish only; and that either of them is capable of being elected a member of the General Assembly, but not both of them in one year. And agreed to enact the same as an Interim Act, and to transmit it as an Overture for the consideration of Presbyteries.

Overture respecting the Ordination of Elders.

WHEREAS, great irregularities have crept into the Church, with respect to the ordination of Elders, the General Assembly overtures, That it be enacted, That no Minister should set apart any person to the office of Elder in his congregation, who has not a fixed residence in the parish, or who is not an heritor in the parish; it being the true meaning and intent of this Overture,

ture, to prevent Elders being ordained in congregations who are in nowise connected with them: And it being understood, that any city or town, where there are more congregations than one, shall be held as one parish, so far as respects the purpose of this Overture.

VIII.

Overture anent Certificates of the Ordination of Elders to the General Assembly.

Edinburgh, May 26. 1787.

THAT before any Presbytery attest the commission of a person to represent them, or any burgh within their bounds, for the first time, as an Elder in the National Assembly of this Church, there be laid before them a declaration, or attestation, by some Minister of this Church, of his having been ordained an Elder.

IX.

Overture respecting the Licensing of Probationers.

Edinburgh, May 26. 1787.

THE General Assembly having taken under their serious consideration, the great danger to which the interests of religion and of this Church may be exposed, by licensing any to preach the gospel, who are not duly qualified for that important trust, do hereby enact, and ordain, that, in all time coming, the following regulations shall be strictly observed:

I. It

I. It is hereby enacted, That no Student shall be entered upon the roll of any Professor of Divinity, unless he shall produce to the said Professor, a Certificate from the minister of the parish in which he has his usual residence; or in his absence, or during a vacancy in said parish, from some neighbouring minister, bearing, that his character is suitable to his views; together with a diploma of Master of Arts, or Certificates from the several Professors of Philosophy, under whom he hath studied; from which it may be clearly ascertained, that, in some University, or Universities, he hath gone through a full course of Philosophy, in some sessions of College preceding that in which the Certificates are produced.

II. To afford the better security for the regular and exemplary conduct of Students in Divinity, it is hereby enacted, That upon the conclusion of that session in which they were first inrolled by the Professor, they shall, some time within six kalendar months thereafter, intimate to the Presbyteries, in whose bounds they have their respective places of residence, that they have commenced Students in Divinity; and that, if any Student has occasion to remove from the bounds of one Presbytery to those of another, he shall, within six kalendar months after said removal, intimate the same to the Presbytery in whose bounds he is to have his new residence, and produce to them a Certificate of his character from that Presbytery with whom he was last connected; or at least a certificate of his moral character from the minister of the parish in which he resided. And it is farther enacted, that the several Presbyteries of this Church, shall keep exact lists of such Students of Divinity, as reside within their bounds, and watch over the conduct of the said Students.

III. The General Assembly do likewise hereby ordain, That all Students who have been inrolled by Professors of Divinity, in the manner prescribed by this act, shall continue to prosecute the study of Divinity, for the term of six years: Provided always, That if any Student hath given regular attendance in the Divinity Hall, during three sessions, his course shall be considered as completed in four sessions; and that if he hath given regular attendance in the Hall during two sessions, his course shall be considered as completed in five sessions. And the Assembly do farther ordain, that, in each of these cases, Stu-

dents shall be inrolled by the Professors during the several sessions of their respective courses, and deliver in the Divinity Hall, in the manner herein afterwards provided, an Exegesis in Latin, on some controverted head in Divinity, a Homily in English, an Exercise and Addition, a Lecture on some large portion of Scripture, and a Popular Sermon, together with such other Exercises, as the Professors shall think proper to prescribe. It is likewise hereby enacted, that, in each of these respective cases, the course shall be computed from the commencement of that session in which the Student was originally inrolled; and that if a Student be proposed to any Presbytery for trials, during the currency of his fourth, fifth, or sixth session, according to the special nature of his case, that session shall be sustained as one of his course.

IV. Professors of Divinity are required to attend, as much as circumstances may permit, to the conduct of such Students as are under their care, and, as far as they find it practicable, to insist, That every Student shall deliver his first discourse some time during his second session, at the latest, and the remainder of his discourses at such periods as may enable him to deliver the whole of them before the end of January of the last session of his course.

V. When a Student is to be proposed to any Presbytery, in order to be taken upon trials, the Presbytery shall be alone, and the motion for that purpose shall lie upon the table till their next ordinary meeting. In the meantime, the Presbytery shall appoint the member by whom the Student has been proposed, to lay before the said meeting all the Certificates in favour of the Student, that are usually required on such occasions; to desire him to attend the same, and to inform him, that previously to the meeting, he ought to wait on such members of the Presbytery, as have not formerly had an opportunity of conversing with him in private.

VI. When the time appointed for considering the motion is arrived, the Presbytery shall strictly observe the following regulations:

1st, The Presbytery shall be alone, while they are employed in discussing the several preliminaries respecting Students who are proposed for trials.

2d, They shall require satisfying evidence, that every Student who is proposed for that purpose, has completed the twenty-first year of his age.

3d, No Student shall be admitted to trials, unless he produces to the Presbytery, a Certificate, or Certificates, from the Professor, or Professors of Divinity, under whose tuition he hath studied, bearing, that he hath prosecuted his studies, and delivered his discourses in the manner prescribed by this act; and that his conduct, as far as consists with the knowledge of the said Professor, or Professors, has been in every respect suitable to his views in life.

4th, No Presbytery shall receive any Student upon trials, unless they are satisfied that he is of good report; sound in his principles; pious, sober, grave, and prudent in his behaviour, of a peaceable disposition, and well affected to the happy establishment in this kingdom, both in Church and State. And, that the Presbytery may proceed with all due caution, in a matter of such peculiar importance, they shall not agree to the motion in behalf of the Student, unless he shall either have resided six kalendar months within their bounds, immediately previous to the date of their deliberations, or shall produce a Certificate of his being qualified, as is herein provided, from the Presbytery in whose bounds he hath had his usual residence for that period.

5th, The Presbytery shall not agree to the motion in favour of the Student, unless they are satisfied that he has made a competent degree of proficiency in those several branches of knowledge, which are necessary to enable him to be an useful Preacher of the Gospel. And the General Assembly ordain, that the Presbytery, in order to procure full information in this respect, shall examine the Student, strictly and privately, on his knowledge of the Greek and Latin languages, and of Philosophy and Theology.

6th, If, after these preliminary steps have been taken, the Presbytery shall be of opinion, that the Student is duly qualified in these several particulars, they shall record this opinion in their minutes, and order their clerk to write letters to the several Presbyteries within the bounds of the Provincial Synod, informing them of the Presbytery's intention to take the Student upon public trials; and bearing, that the several certificates in his favour, which are required by this act, have been regularly laid before them. But it is hereby provided, That
within

within the bounds of such Synods as meet only once a-year, a Student may be entitled to have these circular letters written half a-year sooner than would be otherwise competent.

VII. The General Assembly do likewise appoint Presbyteries to observe the several regulations which are prescribed in the immediately preceding section of this act, before they recommend a Student as qualified to be taken upon public trials by any other Presbytery.

VIII. If a Student hath studied, either in whole or in part, in Universities which are not within the bounds of this Church, he shall, when he is proposed to any Presbytery for trials, be required to produce satisfying testimonials from the Professors of Divinity in said Universities; and the time which these Professors shall certify to have been employed by him in studying Divinity under their tuition, shall be computed in the same manner as if he had prosecuted his studies in any of the Universities within the bounds of this Church. But it is hereby provided, That no Student, in such circumstances, shall be admitted, even to those private trials which are appointed to be taken before the writing of the circular letters, sooner than six kalendar months after his arrival in Scotland.

IX. The General Assembly ordain, That if a Presbytery propose to take a Student upon public trials, and have, with that view, written the circular letters, as is herein required, public intimation thereof shall be made at some diet of the next meeting of the Provincial Synod, which shall not be the last diet thereof. And it is likewise hereby ordained, That at some subsequent diet of the Synod, particular enquiry shall be made, whether any of the members of the Court has any objection to offer against the Student being entered upon public trials.

X. If the Synod shall allow the Student to be taken upon public trials, the Presbytery shall proceed therein with all convenient speed; and the Assembly appoint the following trials to be taken of the Student, and in the order herein mentioned: *1st*, Catechetic trials on Divinity, Chronology and Church History; *2^d*, A trial on the Hebrew and Greek languages; *3^d*, An Exegesis in Latin, on some controverted head in Divinity, with the defence of the Thesis; *4th*, A Homily in English; *5th*, An Exercise

ercise and Addition ; 6th, A Lecture on some large portion of Scripture ; 7th, A popular Sermon ; it being understood, that if the Presbytery see cause, they may examine the Student upon the subject of these several discourses.

XI. The Student having gone through the several trials, which are mentioned in the immediately preceding section of this act, the Presbytery are ordained to proceed in the following order :

1st, They shall deliberately and seriously take a conjunct view of the whole trials ; and if they shall be of opinion, that the Student is not properly qualified to perform the duties incumbent on a Preacher of the Gospel, they shall by no means grant him a licence in his present circumstances.

2d, If upon this review of the trials, the Presbytery are fully satisfied therewith, they shall record this opinion in their minutes.

3d, The Presbytery shall then propose to the Student the questions which are appointed to be put to all who pass trials, by Act 10. Assemb. 1711, and require him to subscribe the Formula, which is prescribed by the said act. And the General Assembly strictly prohibit all Presbyteries from licensing any Student to preach the Gospel, who shall not give explicit and satisfying answers to these questions, and subscribe the said Formula.

4th, The Presbytery shall order the act against Simoniackal practices, to be read to the Student in their presence.

Lastly, The Presbytery shall appoint their Moderator to licence the Student to preach the Gospel, and order their Clerk to furnish him with an extract of his licence, agreeable to the form thereof, which is prescribed by the laws of this Church.

XII. For the better observance of this Act, the General Assembly ordain, 1st, That it shall be printed among their other printed acts ; 2d, That it shall be printed by itself, in some convenient form ; 3d, That a copy of this separate edition shall be transmitted to each Professor of Divinity in the Universities of Scotland ; and that the said Professors shall read the same in their respective halls, once at least during every session, and at such times as they have reason to expect the attendance of the greatest number of Students for that session ; 4th, That a copy

of the same edition shall likewise be transmitted to the Clerks of each Synod and Presbytery within the bounds of this Church; and that the said Clerks shall keep the same along with their minutes, and bring it up to each meeting of their respective Courts, for the use of the members; and, *lastly*, That when any Presbytery shall give a Probationer an extract of his licence, they shall subjoin to the form, which is already requisite on that occasion, the following words: " And the Presbytery do hereby certify, That, in granting this licence, the Act of Assembly respecting the licensing of Probationers, has been strictly observed."

X.

Act appointing the Diet of the next
General Assembly.

THE next General Assembly of this National Church is appointed to be held within the New Church Ayle of Edinburgh, on Thursday the 22d day of May, in the year 1788.

Collected and extracted from the Records of the General Assembly, by

JOHN DRYSDALE, *Cl. Eccl. Scot.*

TABLE

TABLE of the Printed ACTS of the General Assembly, held in the Year 1787.

	<i>Page.</i>
I. <i>THE King's Commission to DAVID Earl of Leven produced, and ordered to be recorded,</i>	3
II. <i>The King's most gracious Letter to the General Assembly, presented to them by his Majesty's Commissioner,</i>	5
III. <i>The General Assembly's Answer to the King's most gracious Letter,</i>	6
IV. <i>Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders, for the Reformation of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, and for managing his Majesty's Royal Bounty for that end,</i>	8
V. <i>Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders, for discussing affairs referred to them,</i>	14
VI. <i>Interim Act and Overture concerning ordained Assistants, retransmitted and re-enacted,</i>	23
VII. <i>Overture respecting the Ordination of Elders,</i>	ib.
VIII. <i>Overture anent Certificates of the Ordination of Elders to the General Assembly,</i>	24
IX. <i>Overture respecting the licensing of Probationers,</i>	ib.
X. <i>Act appointing the Diet of the next General Assembly,</i>	30

ABRIDGMENT

THE FIRST PART OF THE HISTORY OF THE
REIGN OF CHARLES THE FIRST

IN THE YEAR 1625

BY JOHN BURNET

IN TWO VOLUMES

LONDON

Printed by J. Streater, at the Sign of the Gun, in St. Dunstons Church-yard, near St. Dunstons Church, in the City of London.

1704

A B R I D G M E N T

O F T H E

ACTINGS and PROCEEDINGS of the General Assembly
of the Church of Scotland, held in the year 1787,
which are not printed at full length.

May 17. 1787. Sess. 1st.

AFTER sermon by the Reverend Dr Duncan Shaw, one of the ministers of Aberdeen, Moderator of the last General Assembly, the Ministers and Ruling Elders convened in the Assembly-house, in the usual manner; and, after prayer by the said Dr Duncan Shaw, Mr Robert Liston, Minister of Aberdour, being unanimously chosen Moderator, he, at the Assembly's desire, took the chair.

The General Assembly being thus constituted, the King's Commission to the Right Honourable David Earl of Leven, to represent his Majesty's Royal Person, was read with all due honour and respect, and ordered to be recorded.

The King's most gracious Letter to this Assembly, was also read with all due honour and respect, and ordered to be recorded.

His Majesty's Royal warrant for L. 1000 Sterling, was also delivered to the Assembly, and ordered to be recorded.

The Commissioner's speech at opening the Assembly, and the Moderator's speech in return thereto.

A Committee named for answering the King's most gracious Letter.

A Committee named for revising the commissions to the members of this Assembly, censuring absents from the diets thereof, naming Ministers to preach before his Grace the King's Commissioner, and receiving in lists of Probationers in the several Presbyteries, in order to their being recorded.

A Committee for overtures named.

A Committee for bills, references and appeals named.

Adjournment.

A B R I D G M E N T. 1787.

May 18. 1787. Sess. 2d.

Sederunt.

New commissions produced.

A diet spent in prayer.

The Committee for revising commissions appointed to meet this evening at seven o'clock.

Mr William Murray *junior*, writer in Edinburgh, unanimously appointed assistant-clerk to Dr John Drysdale, principal clerk of the Assembly, during all the diets thereof, and of the commission, on account of the Doctor's bad state of health.

The act 7. of Assembly 1718, for the better dispatch of the business of the Assembly, read, and the observation thereof enjoined.

Ministers named to preach before his Grace the King's Commissioner.

The Committee for overtures and bills appointed to meet this evening at seven o'clock, in their usual places.

Adjournment.

May 19. 1787. Sess. 3d.

Sederunt.

New commissions produced.

The report of the Committee for revising commissions having passed the Committee for overtures, was called for, read, and considered by the Assembly.

An objection to the substitution, in the commission from the Presbytery of Jedburgh, because it wanted the word eight, sustained, and the commissioner's name ordered to be expunged from the roll.

The commission from the burgh of Lochmaben rejected, in respect the election was not made forty days before the meeting of the Assembly, and the commissioner's name ordered to be expunged from the roll.

The commission from the burgh of Irvine rejected for the same reason, and the commissioner's name ordered to be expunged from the roll.

The draught of an answer to the King's most gracious letter to this Assembly, brought in, and approved, and his Grace the Commissioner, at the Assembly's request, undertook to transmit the same to his Majesty.

The roll of causes transmitted by the Committee for bills, called for, produced, and read over.

Resolve anent taking in causes.

The petition for the Presbytery of Dunkeld read, and remitted to the consideration of the Committee to be appointed

pointed for considering the new applications for shares of the public money, &c.

The report of the Committee appointed by last General Assembly, for considering the overtures anent licensing Probationers, given in, and read; remitted to the consideration of a Committee, and to report to this Assembly.

A Committee named to revise the register of the actings and proceedings of the Commission of the late General Assembly, and to collect any overtures made by the last Commission to this General Assembly, &c.

A Committee named to revise the register of the actings and proceedings of the Committee named by last Assembly, for managing the Royal Bounty, for the reformation of the Highlands and Islands.

A Committee named to audit and revise the accounts of the Procurator and Agent for the Church, consider the state of the Church's public money, and prepare overtures about the same.

The Committee for overtures appointed to meet this evening at seven o'clock, and empowered them to receive in from the several members, any instructions given to them by the respective Synods or Presbyteries, class the matters therein contained, and prepare overtures thereon to the Assembly; and to receive in and consider any accounts that shall be given them of the state of the Church in the North Highlands; particularly concerning the growth of Popery and superstition, and prepare overtures for preventing and suppressing thereof.

The Committee for bills appointed to meet this evening.
Adjournment.

May 21. 1787. Sess. 4th.

Sederunt.

New commissions produced.

The transactions of the Committee at Glasgow, appointed by a former Assembly for management of the fund collected for the education of students who understand the Gaelic language, given in, and a Committee appointed to revise the same, and to report to the Assembly on Friday next.

The report of the Committee for overtures called for, given in, and read.

The overtures anent the sale of the right of patronage during a vacancy, from the Synods of Lothian and Tweeddale, Perth and Stirling, and Dumfries, were all read,
and

and the consideration thereof agreed to be taken up on Thursday first.

The overtures anent the new form of process, from the Presbytery of Brechin, Ayr, Dundee, Dumbarton, and Auchterarder, and from the Synod of Perth and Stirling, were likewise all read, and the consideration thereof agreed to be taken up on Friday first; and likewise the overtures from the Presbytery of Perth anent complaints and appeals.

The report of the Committee for bills called for, given in, and read, and all petitions relating to the public money referred to the Committee on the public accounts.

A Committee named to revise the Synod-book of Fife.

A Committee named to revise the Synod-book of Lothian and Tweeddale.

None of the other Synods books brought up to this Assembly; resolved, that the reasons thereof be enquired into.

A petition for the Synod of Aberdeen, anent the glebe of Strichen, read, and a Committee appointed to consider the same, and to report.

An appeal of Sir Adam Fergusson of Kilkerran, Bart. and others, trustees of the deceased James Miliken, late of Miliken, Patron of the parish of Kilbarchan, and others, callers of Mr Patrick Maxwell, to be minister of that parish, from a sentence of the presbytery of Paisley, the 25th day of April last, delaying to proceed to the settlement: As also a petition and complaint for Messrs Walter Young, Robert Boog, John M'Caig, and others, complainers against the said sentence, heard, and the sentence of the presbytery *Reversed*, the call to Mr Maxwell *Sustained*, the presbytery of Paisley ordained to meet on the 14th of June next at Paisley, in order to receive this sentence; and in respect Mr Maxwell was an ordained Clergyman, and consequently no second trials necessary, appointed the presbytery, after having regularly served the edict, to meet at Kilbarchan on the 5th day of July next, to admit Mr Maxwell, minister of Kilbarchan, according to the rules of the Church: And found, that the presbytery of Paisley had been guilty of a most unjustifiable delay, in not judging of the call to Mr Maxwell, which they ought to have sustained.

The Committee for overtures, and for revising commissions, appointed to meet this evening at eight o'clock.
Adjournment.

May

A B R I D G M E N T. 1787.

May 22. 1787. Sess. 5th.

Sederunt.

New commissions produced, and openly read; and the commissions from the burghs of Bruntisland and Cupar rejected, because the elections were not made 40 days previous to the sitting of the Assembly, and ordained the Commissioners names to be expunged from the roll.

A petition for Donald Macqueen, Esq; of Corryburgh, and others, heritors of the united parishes of Moy and Dalarossie; William Gillivray of Garbel, and others, elders, and sixty-one heads of families, in the said united parishes, libellers of Mr James Macintosh, minister of these united parishes; as also a petition for the said James Macintosh, appealing from certain judgments of the Synod of Moray, heard: Mr Macintosh's appeals dismissed as frivolous; the proof held to be concluded: Found, that the Synod of Moray had done wrong in paying so much regard to Mr Macintosh's appeals, as to stop procedure; and agreed, for the sake of expediting justice, to proceed directly to consider the merits of the cause, and to call parties to the bar, and to hear them thereon to-morrow; and the Assembly agreed to resolve themselves into a Committee of the whole house to hear the above cause; and likewise, if time, to hear the cause of the parish of Dalton.

The Committee on the public accounts, the Committee for revising the Commission-book, and the Committee for revising the Royal Bounty book, appointed to meet to-morrow, at ten o'clock.

The Committee for bills appointed to meet to-morrow at half past ten, in its usual place.

Adjournment.

May 23. 1787. Sess. 6th.

Sederunt.

New commissions produced, openly read and sustained.

The report of the Committee for bills called for, given in and read.

A petition for Mr Thomas Smith, minister at Cumbertrees, read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Procurator and Agent's accounts, with the report of the Committee thereon produced, and ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the Committee of the whole house, in the cause at the instance of the heritors, elders, and heads of families

A B R I D G M E N T. 1787.

families of the united parishes of Moy and Dalarossie, *contra* Mr James Macintosh, minister of these parishes, called for, given in, and read, bearing, That the sentence of the Presbytery of Inverness, of the 4th of April 1787, ought to be reversed, in respect it is only an adherence to a sentence of deposition pronounced on the 1st day of March 1786, when the exculpatory proof allowed to Mr Macintosh, by the sentence of the General Assembly of that year, had not been taken or judged of by the Presbytery: That the proof adduced by the pursuers was sufficient to establish, that Mr James Macintosh had been guilty of the crime of fornication libelled against him; and that the exculpatory proof adduced by him, did not exculpate him from the said crime; and therefore, that the General Assembly ought to depose him from the office of the holy ministry. The General Assembly unanimously approved of the above report; and, upon a motion, delayed pronouncing the sentence of deposition, and intimating the same, till Monday next.

The report of the Committee of the whole house, in the cause at the instance of Robert Henderson of Cleughheads, Esq; and others, heritors of the parish of Dalton, libellers of Dr William Bryden, minister of that parish, called for, given in and read, bearing, That the General Assembly wave determining the several appeals, and take up the cause on the reference from the presbytery: Allow the prosecutors, at any time before the 12th of November next, to adduce the following witnesses, *viz.* John Foster, Jean Moffat in Maryport, William Burn, and Mary Dalzell in Carlisle, and George Millar, in support of the facts stated in their condescendence, exhibited before the Presbytery of Lochmaben: Appoint a Committee of Assembly to take the said proof, and also any exculpatory proof that may be offered for the defender, betwixt and the 12th day of March next, and report the same to the next Assembly; and instruct the Procurator to give the parties every legal and constitutional aid in his power, towards procuring the attendance of the said witnesses upon the Committee, to meet in this place at such times as shall be appointed by their convener, previous notice of 14 days being given to the parties or their doers. The General Assembly unanimously approved of the above report, and made some additions thereto.

Adjournment.

May

ABRIDGMENT. 1787.

May 24. 1787. *Sess. 7th.*

Sederunt.

The appeal of Mr Rattray at Dalrulzian, agreed to be taken up to-morrow.

The overtures anent the sale of the right of patronage, during a vacancy, considered; the General Assembly declare their high disapprobation of all Simoniackal practices; and, as several Synods had expressed their fears, that the sale of a patronage in the time of a vacancy, had a tendency to introduce such practices, appointed a Committee to revise the laws concerning Simony, and to report to the next Assembly.

The reference from the Synod of Angus and Mearns, anent irregular marriages, read and considered, and unanimously remitted to the Procurator and Agent for the Church, to enquire into the circumstances of this particular case, and to take such steps as should appear to them necessary, in order to bring the session-clerk of Edinburgh, or his depute to punishment.

The Committee on the overture anent licensing Probationers, appointed to meet to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

The Committee on the question anent the glebe of Strichen, appointed to meet this evening at 7 o'clock.

The Committee for overtures, appointed to meet this evening at 7 o'clock.

The Committee on Mr Frederick Maclaggan's case, renewed with the former powers.

Adjournment.

May 25. 1787. *Sess. 8th.*

Sederunt.

The report of the Committee for overtures called for, given in and read, and the new overtures transmitted anent the form of process, appointed to be considered this day, along with the overtures already before the house on that subject.

The report of the Committee on the overture anent licensing Probationers, called for, given in and read, and ordered to lie on the table till to-morrow, and then to be considered.

The report of the Committee, appointed by last General Assembly on the overtures anent appeals, &c. given in by the Convener of that Committee, read, and ordered to lie on the table till to-morrow.

The Committee for managing the Enzie fund, renewed with the former powers.

The

ABRIDGMENT. 1787.

The report of the Committee appointed to consider the reference from the Synod of Aberdeen, anent the glebe of Strichen, given in, read, and approved of.

The report of the Procurator upon the overture transmitted by last Assembly, anent the new form of process, called for, and the Procurator heard thereupon; and after reasoning upon the overtures from the several Synods and Presbyteries, in respect it appeared from the Procurator's report, that the majority of the Presbyteries of this Church had disapproved of the said overture, the General Assembly dismissed the same: But as it likewise appeared, from the reports of Presbyteries, that there was a general opinion prevailing among the members of this Church, that some alterations were necessary to be made on the present form of process; the General Assembly, therefore, unanimously appointed a Committee to take this subject into consideration, and to prepare amendments upon the form of process, to be reported by them to next Assembly; and, that this Committee might be able to understand what the general sentiments of the Church are upon this matter, appointed the several Presbyteries to send up their sentiments thereon, to the Procurator, Convener of the Committee, on or before the 1st day of October next.

An appeal of Thomas Rattray of Dalrulzian, Esq; from a sentence of the Synod of Perth and Stirling in October last, dismissing a condescendence given in by him, as totally irrelevant, heard, and the sentences of the Presbytery of Dunkeld unanimously reversed, in so far as they dismissed the condescendence as totally irrelevant: Found the facts stated in the condescendence irrelevant for exculpation, and remitted to the Presbytery to proceed in the proof of these facts, according to the rules of the Church; but found, that it was contrary to the form of process, to examine Isobel Downie upon oath.

Adjournment.

May 26. 1787. Sess. 9th.

Sederunt.

For the better information of Presbyteries respecting the resolution of yesterday, anent the revising of the form of judicial proceedings of this Church, appointed 300 copies thereof to be printed, and three copies of the same to be delivered to each Presbytery.

Act approving of the account of Mr William Robertson, Procurator for the Church, and exonerating and discharging

- ging him and his cautioners, of the sum of L. 499, 9 s. 1 $\frac{4}{12}$ d. Sterling, disbursed by him; and appointing, that he debit himself in his next account with the sum of L. 6 : 15 : 2 $\frac{2}{12}$ Sterling, being the balance in his hands.
- Act approving the account of Mr George Cairncross, Agent for the Church, and exonerating and discharging him of the sum of L. 257 : 4 : 2 Sterling, disbursed by him, and authorising him to take credit in his next account for the sum of L. 69 : 14 : 2 Sterling, being the balance due to him.
- Act approving the account of Mr James Dickson, Printer for the Church.
- Act approving the account of Mr Elphinston Balfour, Stationer for the Church.
- The report of the Committee, named to consider the applications for shares of the public money, together with the Procurator and Committee's opinion thereon, given in, read, and approved of.
- The Procurator authorised to pay Mr Brown, minister at Newhills, L. 30 this year; and recommended it to the next Assembly to grant him other L. 30.
- The Procurator authorised to pay Mr William Mitchell, minister at Tingwall, the sum of L. 11 : 7 : 7 Sterling.
- The process of suspension depending before the Court of Session, between Sir Thomas Dundas, and Mr John Scollay, minister at St Andrew's, and Deerness in Orkney, remitted to the Procurator and Agent for the Church, to carry on and finish at the public expence.
- The process of augmentation at the instance of Mr James Barclay, minister at Unst in Zetland, against his heritors, remitted to the Procurator and Agent for the Church, to be carried on at the public expence.
- The Procurator authorised to pay Mr Robert Mutter, minister at Kirkcudbright, the sum of L. 25 Sterling this year, and the like sum of L. 25 Sterling next year, in full of his claim.
- The Procurator and Agent for the Church instructed to take such steps as shall appear necessary to bring the process against Mr Rattray of Dalrulzian to a final issue; and empowered the Procurator, if necessary, to apply to his Majesty's Advocate, in name of the Venerable Assembly of the Church of Scotland, for his instance.
- The desire of the petition for Mr Richard Scott, minister at Ewes, refused.
- The petition for Mr Robert Thomson, minister at Killeen, delayed.

A B R I D G M E N T. 1787.

Upon a motion, the Procurator and Agent for the Church authorised to take such steps in the process of augmentation at the instance of Mr William Mitchell, minister at Tingwall, against his heritors, presently depending before the Commission of Teinds, as may appear necessary for bringing the said process to a final issue.

A representation and petition for the trustees, and other managers of the Scotch Church at Shelburn in the Province of Nova Scotia, in behalf of themselves, and the other Loyalists, members of that Church, read; and the Assembly considering, that although the present state of this country will not permit them to give any aid, yet they declare their approbation of the loyalty and attachment of the petitioners to this country, and to the Church of Scotland, expressed in their petition, and of their design of building a house for public worship; encourage them to persevere in prosecuting their pious purpose, and empower their Moderator to transmit to them a copy of this deliverance upon their petition.

Upon a motion, the General Assembly ordered the sum of ten guineas, to be paid to Mr William Murray, as an acknowledgment for the trouble which he has had about the Sketch of the New Form of Process; and authorised the Procurator to pay the same accordingly.

The report of the visitors of the Commission-book given in and read, and the Commission's conduct approved of. The Assembly's thanks given from the Chair to the Moderator of the Commission, for their faithfulness and diligence in the affairs committed to them, and their book ordered to be attested.

The report of the Committee for naming the members of the Commission, and preparing instructions to them, given in, and approved of. The members from the Presbyteries and Burghs, whose commissions were rejected for informalities, the members in the Commission from the Presbytery of Lochmaben, (which was brought up, but owing to an accident not given in to the Assembly), and Dr Hugh Blair in place of the Moderator, were added thereto.

The report of the visitors of the Royal Bounty register given in, and read. The conduct of the managers approved of, and their book ordered to be attested.

A Committee named for managing the Royal Bounty this year, with a Commission, and instructions to them.

The

A B R I D G M E N T. 1787.

The Synod-book of Lothian and Tweeddale attested.

The Synod-book of Fife attested.

The Assembly ordered all the other Synod-books which had not been sent up to this Assembly, to be sent up to next Assembly, and the Presbytery-book of Zetland.

A Committee named on the scheme for erecting new parishes in the Highlands and Islands.

The report of the trustees of the fund established by act of Parliament, for a provision to Ministers widows, &c. containing an account of their proceedings since last General Assembly, and a state of the fund under their management, given in, and ordered to lie on the table till next diet; and, upon a motion, the thanks of the house given to Sir Harry Moncrieff, for his fidelity, attention, and prudence in the management of the fund.

The interim-act and overture anent ordained assistants, ordered to be continued, and the overture on the same subject, and also the overture anent the ordination of elders, to be retransmitted; but dismissed the overture anent students having the Gaelic language.

The report of the Committee on the overtures anent the licensing of Probationers, unanimously approved of; appointed the same to be transmitted as an overture, and specially enjoined Presbyteries to take this overture into consideration, in sufficient time to have their returns sent up to next General Assembly, and, in their returns, to give an explicit opinion, approving or disapproving of each particular paragraph.

Upon a motion, the thanks of the house given to Dr Henry Grieve, for the great trouble he had taken in collecting the sentiments of the Church, with regard to the proper rules to be observed in licensing Probationers, and in preparing an overture on that subject, which had received the unanimous approbation of the General Assembly.

The overture from the Synod of Perth and Stirling anent attesting commissions to Elders, agreed to be transmitted. (*Vide* the printed Acts).

The overtures from the Synod of Fife, and Presbytery of Jedburgh anent appeals, ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee on the overtures anent the sale of patronage, appointed to meet on Monday at eleven o'clock.

Adjournment.

May 28. 1787. *Sess. ult.*

Sederunt.

The report of the Trustees of the fund established by act of Parliament, for a provision for Ministers widows, &c.

A B R I D G M E N T. 1787.

Ec. again called for, and ordered to be recorded in the separate register kept for that purpose.

List of Probationers produced, their names read out, and ordered to be recorded.

The General Assembly, after prayer, deposed Mr James Macintosh, minister of Moy and Dalarossie, from the office of the holy ministry, prohibiting and discharging him to exercise the same, or any part thereof, in all time coming; and ordained the Presbytery of Inverness to cause intimate this sentence from the pulpit of the parishes of Moy and Dalarossie.

On a motion, it was recommended to the Committee on the Royal Bounty, in respect of the particular circumstances of the united parishes of Moy and Dalarossie, to allow the missionary, presently employed in these parishes, to continue on their scheme to the 1st day of November next.

All causes brought before this Assembly, and not determined by them, referred to the Commission.

Protestations admitted.

A Committee named to revise the minutes of the Assembly's proceedings, at this and all other diets thereof, and to pitch upon such of the acts of the Assembly as are to be standing rules, in order to their being printed.

The Moderator's speech to the Assembly, and his Majesty's Commissioner.

The Lord Commissioner's speech to the Assembly.

Act appointing next meeting of the Assembly.

The Assembly concluded with prayer, singing of psalms, and pronouncing the blessing.

F I N I S.

